Sir

In Council 2d March 1787.

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In answer to yours of the 7th Ultimo we are of opinion that you are empowered by the Act entitled "An Act to vest certain powers in the Governor and Council" to require the purchasers of Confiscated British Property to Bond for the Same and that on their refusal it becomes your duty to bring Suits indiscriminately against them.

We are also of opinion that no Sales ought to be made of any property but what is clearly ascertain'd to be Confiscated, as it can't be supposed, when the Right is in dispute that the Property will sell as well as when it is known, and shou'd it turn out that the property is not confiscated it will be productive of applications to the General Assembly for Relief from the Purchases, which at any rate will be attended with a considerable Expence to the State whether the Purchasers obtain Relief or not.

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

We request to be precisely informed of the nature of the Instructions you gave the Attorney General